November 29, 2012

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Ingham County Legal News: Wright Lifetime Achievement Award winners announced

"Thomas M. Haskel of Grayling, a longtime juvenile officer and court administrator, and Marilyn F. Stephen of Jackson, the former director of the Office of Child Support for the Department of Human Services, are the 2012 winners of the Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award."

Full story

Also see:

Wright Lifetime Achievement Award winners announced; former Office of Child Support Director Marilyn Stephen of Jackson, Crawford County Juvenile Officer Thomas Haskel honored for service to Michigan families

Press release

The Detroit News: Hathaway ducks out on media after court hearing (second article)

"Reporters struck out in trying to reach a Michigan Supreme Court justice who is accused of fraud in a real estate deal. Justice Diane Hathaway participated in a public hearing Wednesday on court rules." Full story

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Troubled justice ducks reporters

Full story

The Eastern Echo: Diane Hathaway makes 'bold' decision in office

Full story

Lansing State Journal: Editorial: Hathaway stands on shaky ground

Full story

** The article is available by subscription only.

The Oakland Press: No comment from Michigan Supreme Court [Justice] accused of bank fraud

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Herald-Palladium/St. Joseph, the Lansing State Journal, the Midland Daily News, and the Times Herald/Port Huron.

WDIV-TV(4)/Detroit: Week after lawsuit, Michigan court justice accused of fraud makes public appearance

Full story

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Justice Hathaway back on the bench

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Flint area man gets life sentence for sexually assaulting infant

"A Flint area man has been sentenced to life in prison for sexually assaulting an infant.... Judge Geoffrey Neithercut also ordered Hall's wife, Alisha Hall, to serve 25-40 years in prison. Jurors convicted her of photographing the abuse."

Full story

Also see:

Flint Journal: Daniel Hall sentenced to life in prison for sexually assaulting infant daughter, wife gets 25-40 years

Full story

Bay City Times: Black Friday sale savings help Bay City women complete project benefitting Michigan foster children

"What started as a sponsorship of four families through Lutheran Home Services for Christmas quickly snowballed into something much bigger for Charlene Samborne thanks to a Black Friday sale at Joanne Fabrics."

Full story

The Daily News/Greenville: Ionia County Prosecutor's Office implements Canine Advocacy Program

"... Late last summer, the Canine Advocacy Program was brought to Ionia County — one of only two or three counties in Michigan to take advantage of the service. The program headquartered in Novi was developed to provide advocacy services to child victims utilizing a highly trained dog to help alleviate the anxiety associated with being involved in the court system."

Full story

Also see:

Ionia Sentinel-Standard: Introducing Patty, Ionia County's canine advocate; 5-year-old lab helps cut down child victims' anxiety in court.

Full story

Daily Press & Argus: No new trial in drinking-related death

"A Pinckney woman convicted of providing the whiskey that contributed to the death of an 18-year-old Durand man will not get a new trial. The Michigan Court of Appeals said Lindsey Treanor's trial attorney was not ineffective; there was sufficient evidence to support her conviction; and she was not deprived of a fair trial, according to an opinion released Wednesday."

Full story

Detroit Legal News: LAD holds workshop on small claims court

"Legal Aid and Defender Association, Inc. conducted the second of its three fall workshops on small claims court Nov. 8 at St. Clair Shores Public Library.... LAD's workshops are designed to teach residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties how to represent themselves in the courts and collect money judgments."

Full story

Also see:

Macomb County Legal News: Getting up to speed on small claims court <u>Full story</u>

Ingham County Legal News: Probate Court section updated on rules and forms

"Rules changes, forms changes and recent legislation affecting members of the Ingham County Bar Association Probate Section were the topics covered by George Strander, Ingham County Court Administrator and Probate Register at the Section meeting held at the Michael Franck Building in Lansing, MI on November 20th."

Full story

Kalamazoo Gazette: Dismissal of lawsuit alleging Kalamazoo County sheriff's deputies caused death of infant upheld by appeals court

"A judge's decision to dismiss a lawsuit alleging that the inaction of two Kalamazoo County sheriff's deputies led to the murder of a 2-month-old baby at the hands of his drunk mother has been affirmed by the Michigan Court of Appeals."

Full story

Kalamazoo Gazette: Report: Former foster care student with troubled background gets settled at Western Michigan University

"... [Marcus] Buggs was accepted to Western Michigan University this year and moved into Harvey Hall in the fall, according to the report. He is part of WMU's well-known Seita Scholar program, which has received national recognition for awarding students who exit the foster care system a full-ride scholarship to college and a support network as the student becomes an adult."

Full story

MLive.com: Wayland attorney arrested in Allegan County methamphetamine busts

"Wayland attorney Patrick Burson has been arrested on methamphetamine charges after police allegedly found meth labs at his office and Otsego home, state police said.... Because Burson worked in the Allegan County courts, the case was turned over to the state Attorney General's Office, which assigned it to Berrien County prosecutors."

Full story

Also see:

Allegan County News: Wayland attorney, two Otsego women charged in meth case

Full story

Muskegon Chronicle: Election 2012: Raymond J. Kostrzewa files for recount in Muskegon County Circuit Court election

"Raymond J. Kostrzewa has requested a recount of the vote for Muskegon County 14th Circuit judge, a race he narrowly lost to Annette Smedley according to the pre-recount tally.... Kostrzewa noted that the margin was only four-tenths of 1 percent of the votes cast, close enough to trigger an automatic recount in some states, though not in Michigan."

Full story

Traverse City Record-Eagle: Judge Stowe files lawsuit over money transfer; He says he hopes incident is 'misunderstanding'

"[Grand Traverse Probate Judge David Stowe] alleges his ex-wife took \$46,000 of his money after he mistakenly put it into an account with her name on it.... The suit, [filed in 13th Circuit Court on Tuesday,] alleges his ex-wife, Cynthia Stowe, transferred the money into her personal account after he accidentally put it in a joint account the couple used before their divorce was finalized in July." Full story

State Bar of Michigan Blog: Not Fade Away: The Judicial Version

"This week the Washington Post astonished the world by discovering that the average age of the members of the Rolling Stones -- 68 years and 297 days, exceeds that of the U.S. Supreme Court by almost two years. Perpetuating the hilarity, MiLW Blog extended the comparison to the Michigan Supreme Court, but its analysis, alas, was incomplete."

Full story

WLNS-TV(6)/Lansing: Judge Dismisses Case Due to Unclear Medical Marijuana Laws

"[Lansing's 54A District Judge Hugh Clarke, Jr.] dismissed a medical marijuana case on grounds that Michigan's laws regarding it are too unclear.... Last year the Michigan court of appeals ruled all medical marijuana dispensaries are illegal. Some centers closed their doors after that decision. Others, including HydroWorld, kept the cannabis coming."

Full story